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10-23
(May 1929)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

✓ ROGERS	
✓ EMERT	
✓ JOFFE	
NEILSON	
SMITH	
WILLIAMS	
SHOREY	
ALBRIS	
✓ LANDUE	
SKINNER	
SCHWEITZER	
✓ BAUER	
BURROWS	
LORD	
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MONTHLY REPORT

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

August, 1941

IMPORTANT

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ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

September 8, 1941

MEMORANDUM for the Director:

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park for the month of August, 1941.

Weather Conditions. The rainy weather of June and July continued throughout August and there were few days during the month on which no precipitation occurred. The heavy rains had no noticeable effect on travel, but did keep down the fire danger and no serious fires were reported throughout the month.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers made several trips out of the park during the month, the first from August 14 to sixteenth to Denver to attend the American Trails Association meeting and discuss priority procurements. On August 20 a trip was made to Henry Lake and the Big Spring area below West Yellowstone to look over the site selected by the Army for its new cantonment. On August 24 he attended the celebration marking the Fiftieth Anniversary of the creation of the U. S. Forest Service, held at the Wapiti Ranger Station on the East Entrance road and on August 27 he went to Devils Tower National Monument to meet Associate Director A. E. Demaray, returning to the park on the twenty-ninth with Mr. Demaray. On the thirty-first he took Mr. Demaray to the Grand Teton National Park and returned on the same day.

Almost 200,000 visitors came into the park during the month and a like number during the month of July, so that the two months alone accounted for almost 400,000 visitors. By the end of August a new all-time record had been set as 538,005 persons had been recorded to that date, as against 475,873 to the end of August last year, a gain of 13.1%.

The business of the operators was comparable with that of the travel and all operators reported a considerable increase. By the end of August the Yellowstone Park Company showed an increase of 13.45%, which is slightly above the percentage of increase in travel. The other operators showed a similar increase.

Human and other bones were found in a ditch being dug for a water line in the housekeeping cabin area at Fishing Bridge on August 26. The find was investigated and dug out by Assistant Park Naturalist Condon. It proved to be a burial containing almost a complete skeleton of a human being, remnants of two dogs and a number of artifacts.

UNITED STATES
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YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

IN REPLY REFER TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

Comments by the Superintendent:

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park for the month of August, 1941.

Weather Conditions. The month was one of hot and dry weather throughout most of the park area. The only rainfall of any consequence occurred during the last three days of the month, leaving the ground very dry. The grass which had grown so rapidly during the early part of the month, has all been cured and is extremely dry. The forest floor is very dry and fire danger is at a critical stage.

Special Activities. Superintendent Jackson was called to Washington on the 4th of August. While there, he was asked by the Director to represent the Service at a meeting of the Forest Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs officials to discuss the Indian Forest Fire Protection Program. The meeting was held on the 5th and 6th. Mr. Jackson returned to the park on the 7th.

Labor and Job Activities. Work on the Lake Junction road, a line shelter during the month of July, on the Lake Junction road, a line shelter during the month of July, on the Lake Junction road, a line shelter during the month of July,

Two deaths occurred during the month, Edward J. Ossenbeck, Cincinnati, Ohio, age 46, died at the Mammoth Hospital on August 1 of an acute hemorrage and Fred Jacques, Route #2, Fairmont, West Virginia, CCC enrollee, who was injured in a truck accident on July 31, died at the Mammoth Hospital on August 3.

Colonel E. M. George, Zone Construction Quartermaster, U. S. Army, San Francisco, arrived in West Yellowstone on August 8 with a group of Army officials and engineers to look over the location for a new Army camp to be located near West Yellowstone. The site selected near Henry Lake in Idaho was to comprise some 100,000 acres and the camp will house some 30,000 men. Work got under way immediately by the contractor and before the end of the month a bad employment situation had developed, due to the contractor taking some of the best employees from the park, both from the government and operators and offering them much higher salaries. Several civil service clerks resigned in order to accept these higher wages and left without giving any notice whatever, causing a bad clerical situation in the fiscal and administrative offices.

A serious cloudburst occurred at Mammoth on August 18 which flooded out portions of the Mammoth - Gardiner road and tied up traffic completely for some three hours. More than an inch and a half of rain fell at Mammoth and the immediate vicinity within the period of an hour.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service was celebrated throughout all National Park Service areas on August 25 and in the Yellowstone the campfire programs were scheduled for special talks by naturalists on history with special music and introduction of park officials. All of the programs were rained out with the exception of the one at Mammoth, which was carried out according to schedule, although the rain there caused a very small attendance.

The U. S. Weather Bureau office at Mammoth was closed on August 29 and the observer, Mr. Charles Howard, departed for Denver, Colorado, where he is to engage in some special weather bureau work. The Yellowstone station has been maintained since December 1903. While there will no longer be a station at Mammoth, one is being operated by the Weather Bureau at West Yellowstone outside the park boundaries.

Inspections. The following NPS and other government officials visited the park during the month: Howard W. Oxley, National Director, CCC Education, Washington, August 4; Colonel Pearson Mencher, In Charge Colorado and Wyoming CCC, August 8; Rene A. Reixach, Equipment Engineer, NPS, Washington, August 7; Carl P. Russell, Supervisor of Research and Interpretation, NPS, Washington, August 9; Isabelle F. Story, Chief of Information, NPS, Washington, August 8; Lawrence C. Merriam, Regional Director, Region II, Omaha, August 9; Arthur F. Lindberg, Field Supervisor, Region II, CCC, Omaha, August 9; Thos. E. Carpenter, Deputy Chief of Planning, Western Roads and Trails Division, NPS, San Francisco, August 5; Newell

Skeleton of an Indian, dog bones and some artifacts recovered on August 26, 1941 from a gravesite in the Fishing Bridge tourist cabin area.

Photo by Condon

Bones of two [illegible] taken from the Indian gravesite on [illegible]ust 26, 1941. --Condon.

F. Joyner, Custodian, Devils Tower National Monument, August 11; J. S. Barrows, Associate Forester, NPS, Washington, August 14; John E. Doerr, Chief, Naturalist Division, NPS, Washington, August 20; Lieutenant Colonel Sidney H. Negrotto, U. S. Army, San Francisco, August 20; Lawrence F. Cook, Assistant Chief of Forestry, NPS, August 12; George Walker, Associate Forester, NPS, Region II, Omaha, August 12; Earle Clapp, Acting Chief Forester, U. S. Forest Service, Washington, August 25; Colonel Allen S. Peck, Regional Forester, Region II, Denver, August 25; Ernest L. Dugas, Investigator, CCC, Washington, August 25; Edmund H. Abrahams, Chairman, NPS Advisory Board, August 27; J. Barton Herschler, Chief Ranger, Rocky Mountain National Park, August 26; A. E. Demaray, Associate Director, NPS, Washington, August 29; William E. Robertson, Regional Engineer, Region II, Omaha, NPS, August 31; Daniel B. Beard, Regional Biologist, Region II, Omaha, August 19.

Status of Private Lands. There has been no change in the status of alienated lands in the park during the month. Correspondence has been carried on and several telephone calls made to Assistant to the U. S. Attorney Buntin in an endeavor to expedite the condemnation proceedings now in progress.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. Surveys were made for the West Thumb Cabin area and proposed water system. Construction stakes were set for roads in the Lake Lodge Cabin area and the sanitary sewer in the Housekeeping Cabin Area at Fishing Bridge. Preliminary investigation was made on a new sewer system at Lake.

General Publicity. A number of press releases and some park pictures were sent out through the Publicity Director, A. Tyler Upham.

General Complaints. Some written complaints were received during the month, mostly with regard to services and accommodations of the operators and copies of all of these were made and referred to the operators for the necessary action, a copy of each communication having been sent the Washington office.

Maintenance. Cloudbursts blocked the North and East Entrance roads temporarily, washing out a portion of the former. Approximately 94 miles of completed loop highway were striped with a 4", solid white line. Considerable new guard rail replaced old and rotted sections.

New Construction. Canyon Power System - Concrete foundation work on the powerhouse and the walls of two vaults were completed. A contract was let for the brick work on the powerhouse. Canyon Pumping Station - Building construction of the pumphouse was almost completed.

Special Improvement Activities. From the first to the seventeenth of August, there were four CCC companies in Yellowstone Park: Camp NP-1, Mammoth; NP-7 Glen Creek; NP-15, Old Faithful; NP-16, Yellowstone. Camp 15

left West Yellowstone on August 17, 7:30 P.M. for Dubois, Idaho, and Camp 16 left Lake by truck on August 17 for Jenny Lake Camp. The main jobs for the four camps were as follows: Grading housekeeping area, Mammoth; Campground maintenance, Yellowstone Park; Cottage, Mammoth; Nursery, Game Ranch; Circulating System, Old Faithful Lodge Cabin Area; Circulating System, Lake and Fishing Bridge Cabin Area; Sewer System, Old Faithful; Fire Presuppression, Yellowstone Park; Fire Suppression, Yellowstone Park; Water System, Canyon.

On August 21 a twenty-five man side camp was established at Canyon out of the Mammoth Camps to work on the water system in that area. Progress on all jobs was fair, due to the company movements, shoring of camp buildings, etc. There were no jobs completed during the month.

Park Operators. The unusually heavy travel benefited the operators and all showed a considerable increase in business over last year. The closing dates for the various operations were set with the officials of the companies on August 26 and a press release was sent out for the information of the general public. The Mammoth swimming pool was the first operation to close, on August 28.

Work continued on the construction of cabins in the Lake Cabin area and installation of utilities in the Fishing Bridge Cabin area by the Yellowstone Park Company.

Cooperating Governmental Agencies. The Old Faithful - Isa Lake job was about 30% complete, work concentrating on rough grading and stone masonry headwalls, with the rock crusher starting August 20. The West Thumb development work continued on utility installation and also started its rock crushing operations. Construction of the Cascade Creek Culvert began on the Canyon job, considerable rain hindering all heavy grading. On the East Entrance approach road, practically all oiling work was shut down by rain.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. The total number of visitors for the 1941 season through August 31 was 538,005 compared with 475,873 for the same period in 1940--an increase of 62,132 visitors or 13.1%. This insures 1941 as the record year, for travel in 1940 previously was high. Hawaii led all territories and still surpassed five states in amount of travel with 345 visitors. Canada surpassed all foreign countries with a total number of 665 visitors.

Visitors. Jack Dempsey, former heavyweight champion of the world, August 2; Herbert Hoover, former President of the United States, August 8; Judge John W. Sternhagen, U. S. Board Tax Appeals, August 6; Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, former U. S. Senator from New Jersey, August 6; Charles Kramer, member of Congress from California, August 17; John K. McKee, member, Board of Governor of Federal Reserve System, August 20; U. S.

Senator H. H. Schwartz of Wyoming, August 25; U. S. Congressman John Lesinski, Dearborn, Michigan, August 25; William L. Finley, well-known photographer and lecturer, August 25; U. S. Senator Pat McCarran, of Nevada, August 28; A. O. Stanley, Chairman, International Joint Boundary Commission, August 28; U. S. Senator Charles O. Andrews, U. S. Senator from Florida, August 26.

Ranger Service. Regular work was increased due to the large volume of park travel. Fifty-six identification notices were issued and twenty cleared by this Service. Seven others were also located by special notices. Bear and Swan counts were conducted and annual population census was taken.

Police Protection. Sixteen cases were presented in the U. S. Commissioner's Court as follows:

Charge	Cases	Fines
Traffic Violations	9	$ 190
Disorderly Conduct	1	45
Failure to extinguish campfire	1	2
Possession of illegal number of fish	1	10
Assault	1	25
Defacing natural features	1	10
Malicious damage of property	1	10
Hitchhiking	1	10
TOTAL.....	16	$ 302.

Accidents. Forty automobile accidents were reported and investigated during August. Government-owned vehicles were involved in four accidents. Three of these were army cars and one was a CCC truck.

One woman suffered a broken ankle on the trail to the bottom of the Yellowstone Canyon. Other accidents were of a minor nature.

Wildlife Protection and Fish Cultural Activities. Bears: The annual bear census was made on August 4, 11 and 18 and from actual counts made throughout the park, it is estimated that the grizzly bear population now numbers 300 and the black bear 550. These figures compare with 320 and 510 in 1940. A comparative table of bear injuries and damages to August 31 is given below:

	1941		1940		Ten Year Average, 1931-40	
	Aug.	Seas. to Date	Aug.	Seas. to date	Aug.	Season to d.
Personal Injuries	34	83	18	39	22	51
Property Damages	22	90	32	60	57	124
Total Incidents	56	173	50	99	79	175
Bears Killed	3	21	7	7	17	29

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Arrowheads, drill, knives, scraper and worked pieces recovered from the Indian gravesite on August 26, 1941.

Photo by Condon.

Flakes of Obsidian and Flint recovered from Indian gravesite. August 26, 1941
Photo by Condon.

Fish Planting: Planting of blackspotted trout was carried on throughout the month, with sufficient numbers being removed from Yellowstone Lake Hatchery to permit feeding of about 1,500,000 which will be planted as No. 1¼ to No. 1½ fingerling in September.

Trumpeter Swan: A trumpeter swan census was held on August 15 and sixteenth, during which period all of the possible swan waters of the park were visited. These birds were found on 17 different lakes or ponds and on one stream. Swans with cygnets were located on only six different lakes. Total count for the park was 44 adults and 15 cygnets, or a total of 59.

Under direction of Mr. A. V. Hull of the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Red Rock Lakes area and surroundings were counted on the same dates as assigned for the Yellowstone census. Mr. Hull also received reports from refuges in Wyoming and Oregon and his service accounted for 99 adults and 54 cygnets, or a total of 153, outside of the park. All counts of trumpeter swans in the United States thus total 212.

Ranch Operations. Continuous wet weather during August delayed haying operations in the Lamar Valley and only about 270 tons were in stock by the close of the period. Approximately 100 tons remain to be stacked in September.

Forest Fire Protection. There were four Class A and one Class B fires during the month. The Class B fire burned 1.4 acres and was suppressed by a CCC crew from Lake Camp. Due to favorable weather, several fire guard positions were terminated from the twenty-fourth to the thirty-first.

Miscellaneous. A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley J. Fillmore at the Mammoth Hospital on August 2. Mr. Fillmore is employed as a seasonal truckdriver.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Verne H. Holmberg at the Mammoth Hospital on August 6. Mr. Holmberg is employed as a clerk with the National Park Service.

The local civil service board held a stenographer-typist examination on August 9, at which were nine competitors.

Acting Superintendent.

RC

Fish Planting. [illegible] out the [illegible], with sufficient [illegible] [illegible] feeding of about [illegible] [illegible] in September.

Trumpeter Swan. A trumpeter swan census was held [illegible] August [illegible] during which period all of the possible swan habitats of the park were visited. These birds were [illegible] on 17 different areas [illegible] and on one stream. [illegible] with cygnets were [illegible] [illegible] total count for the park was [illegible] adults and [illegible] cygnets, or a total of [illegible].

[illegible] the Red Rock Lakes area and surroundings were counted on the same days as [illegible] for the Yellowstone census. [illegible] [illegible] in Wyoming and Oregon and [illegible] [illegible] cygnets, or a total of [illegible], exclusive of the park. [illegible] for swans in the United States [illegible].

Small Depredations. [illegible] in the Lamar Valley and only [illegible] by the [illegible] [illegible] in September.

Forest Fire Protection. [illegible] during the season. [illegible] [illegible] fires.

Miscellaneous. [illegible] of the Lamar [illegible] [illegible].

A [illegible] on August [illegible] National Park [illegible].

The [illegible] on August [illegible] competition.

* [illegible]